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### **Plan Invests in Energy, Education, and Infrastructure; Cuts Taxes on Middle Class; Returns Budget to Balance**

( WASHINGTON, DC ) -- Congressman Russ Carnahan (MO-3rd) today voted for a Democratic budget plan that charts a New Direction for the country. It makes investments in energy, education, and infrastructure; provides tax relief for the middle class; keeps our promise to our veterans; and returns the budget to balance in five years. The plan, a budget conference agreement for fiscal 2009, won approval today by the House of Representatives.

**“We know how important it is to get this county’s financial house in order. People in my district are having difficulties coping and I am committed to acting on their behalf,” said Carnahan. “That’s why our balanced budget provides tax relief for middle income families and opportunities for those most in need. We also provide needed investment in education and incentives for new businesses in order to help create more jobs.”**

The Democratic budget:

- rejects the failed fiscal policies of the Bush Administration. It returns the budget to balance – reaching a surplus of \$22 billion in 2012 and \$10 billion in 2013.
- responds to soaring energy costs by helping promote renewable energy, clean fuel technology, and energy efficiency.
- makes education and innovation investments that will generate economic growth and jobs, make college more affordable, improve student achievement, and reverse the Bush Administration’s under-funding of education.
- invests in our nation’s infrastructure – repairing crumbling roads, bridges, transit, airports, and schools.
- does not include any tax increase. To the contrary, it supports significant tax relief, including extension of marriage penalty relief, the child tax credit, and the 10 percent bracket, as well as allowing for estate tax reform. It includes an additional year of Alternative Minimum Tax relief. And it provides for property tax relief, energy and education tax relief, and extenders.
- makes our country safer by providing robust funding for national defense and ensuring that resources are available to address the most critical threats facing the nation. It ensures that

veterans get the quality health care they need and deserve. It also protects the homeland and rejects the President's cuts in law enforcement, the COPS program, firefighters, and other first responders.